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SUNDAY, JULY 18, 1909.

## "One-man Rule" and Other Things.

It pleases us to note the midsummer  
interest in our District government—its  
form, its strength, its weakness, and the  
wisdom of a change. The time is ripe—  
and there is plenty of it—and we should  
like to see the whole question thrashed  
out to a frazzle.

Whether a one-headed or three-headed  
administration is the better; whether con-  
centrated authority and responsibility  
would produce better results than  
divided authority and responsibility;  
whether it would be well further to  
localize, or, on the other hand, further to  
nationalize, this national city, and, finally,  
whether we should or should not be given  
the voting franchise—all these are mooted  
questions, burning questions; and, since  
the black season is on, we should like to  
see and hear a free-for-all debate covering  
the whole gamut of issues. Frankly,  
we should expect a unanimous agreement to  
disagree in the end. But what's the odds?

It will do nobody any harm, and by way  
of relieving the pressure, may do much  
good. At any rate, we are for a free and  
untrammeled, all-around discussion, and,  
on our part, promise the fullest possible  
hearing consistent with space. So let the  
weekling ring.

Just in passing we do not mind saying  
that when Congress meets again a change  
will be found to be impending—a change  
of some sort in the administration of our  
affairs. We expect it and are prepared for  
it. We may go further and say candidly  
that we are reconciled to it—quite  
reconciled. A few months ago, when an  
unhappy propaganda was set going in  
favor of one-man rule; when an iniquitous  
outrage for a change was raised with  
the sole and ugly purpose of discrediting  
the Commissioners for having done their  
simple and honest duty in a particular  
case, it aroused our antagonism, just as  
it provoked the righteous wrath of every  
good citizen. And that brazen  
propaganda, odorous of the gas-house,  
died a miserable but timely death, with  
only an octopus organ to mourn its passing,  
and it too shamefaced to display its  
grief. But that is of the past; a tale  
that is told.

President Taft believes a change ad-  
visable. There is the best of reason for  
saying that his belief has taken the form  
of conviction which is unchangeable. In-  
fluential people in and out of Congress  
have come to share his view, and so the  
recommendation he will make is sure to  
command support. Hence it is we ex-  
pect a change of some sort—not a radical  
or revolutionary change that will throttle  
our ambitions or threaten our liberties,  
but a change, nevertheless. In all like-  
hood—though it is impossible to speak by  
the card at this juncture—the change will  
mean a reduction by two of the number  
of Commissioners, and the survivor or  
his successor (a local man, we hope) will  
bear a new and different title. That, at  
least, is what we now expect.

In the meantime, on with the debate! Let  
everybody be heard. There is no ul-  
terior purpose in evidence. Honest dis-  
cussion is wholesome. James Bronson  
Reynolds started it by invitation, and the  
muzzle has been thrown away. The time  
is ripe—ripe as can be—and, as we have  
said, there's plenty of it.

A word of advice in conclusion: Do not  
in the exuberance of the discussion of  
these burning questions be led to avow  
a determination to allow your hair or  
whiskers to grow until we get suffrage  
in the District of Columbia. You would  
be sure to meet the fate of the Bryan  
man who took a similarly rash vow—  
dead sure. Then don't do it.

## Conditions in Government Work.

That the government should be a model  
employer is a maxim of universal accep-  
tance, yet difficult of enforcement on ac-  
count of the divided responsibility for  
carrying on governmental mechanism and  
the indifference or inertia of one or other  
of the responsible powers. Since the  
organization of the District of Columbia  
section of the woman's department of the  
Civic Federation, however, the govern-  
ment's duties as an employer have been  
brought home to the official and Con-  
gressional mind with some effect. The  
inquiries set afoot by members of this  
organization have disclosed serious neg-  
lect of conditions requisite to the health  
and comfort and even efficiency of gov-  
ernment employes of nearly all grades.  
Overcrowding is frequent; in many build-  
ings ventilation is poor and light is bad;  
sanitary conveniences are occasionally  
absent; inadequate provision is made for  
rest and lunch rooms. A former Federal  
official not long ago made the sweeping  
assertion that he had yet to see a govern-  
ment building in this country that was  
properly constructed for the purpose for  
which it was intended. Some of them are  
monumental blunders in design and con-  
struction, though Congress has been most  
liberal in appropriating funds.

There is, we are happy to say, a better  
side to the picture, also disclosed by  
the inquiries referred to. A general dis-  
position was found among government

officials to improve the conditions under  
which their subordinates labor. In one  
or two of the newer structures every  
provision has been made for the health  
of employes. The National Museum is  
one of these buildings, and the new build-  
ing for the Bureau of Engraving and  
Printing will contain rest and recreation  
and lunch rooms, with an infirmary for  
medical attention to the sick or in-  
jured. The Government Printing Office  
is a model in respect of sanitary and  
medical conveniences. Nearly all the  
older buildings are badly crowded, and  
there is no room for further conveniences  
for the benefit of employes. To remedy  
this condition will require the expendi-  
ture of large sums for new buildings, but  
there is no expenditure that would in the  
long run prove more profitable and eco-  
nomic.

Meantime, through the influence of  
such agencies as the Civic Federation,  
a higher conception of the duty of the  
government as employer may be in-  
culturated in the departments and in Con-  
gress; to the end that in all plans, for  
future buildings there may be shown the  
same consideration for the health and  
comfort of their occupants as is displayed  
in modern mercantile and industrial es-  
tablishments. The government should be  
an exemplar of humane and enlightened  
treatment of all its employes.

## Taft and Diaz Meet—Maybe.

Plans to bring about a meeting on the  
Texan frontier between Presidents Taft  
and Diaz are said to be under considera-  
tion in diplomatic circles. It is cau-  
tiously hinted that the meeting is to be  
made memorable and the attending cer-  
emonies elaborate even unto gorgeous-  
ness.

We supposed we should hear as much  
before the Taft administration had pro-  
ceeded very far along the road to glory.  
These same plans to bring about a formal  
exchange of courtesies between the  
President of the United States and the  
President of Mexico have been heard of  
before. We think, probably, they were  
first framed up for the benefit of An-  
drew Jackson. Ever since then they have  
been trotted out at approximately regular  
intervals—at least once during every ad-  
ministration since then—dusted off, and  
proclaimed, always semi-officially and in-  
directly, but more or less enthusiastically.

We should think it might be a good  
idea for some administration to bring  
the scheme to a head. It would be quite  
an interesting event, certainly harmless,  
and it would serve to vary pleasantly  
the long drawn out monotony of the  
almost but not quite. To be sure the fate  
of neither republic depends upon it. Mr.  
Taft could not, in the nature of things,  
have any very extraordinary communica-  
tion to submit to Gen. Diaz, of course,  
on this occasion, nor would the general  
presume to offer Mr. Taft any advice or  
suggestion calculated to startle the uni-  
verse. But it would be a pleasant, pret-  
ty, and pacific incident, well worth the  
price, we suspect.

Gen. Diaz, we note in the present crisis,  
is quite as punctiliously polite as usual.  
He has asked "permission" of the Mex-  
ican Congress to consider "the matter  
again—"permission," mark you; but tell  
it not to Buena Tumbo—and seems pleased  
enough to think it all over once more,  
even though it be the "fifteenth time. Like  
the immortal Barkis, Gen. Diaz is willing,  
if not anxious. His best bib and tucker  
would be none too fine to do for Mr.  
Taft's benefit.

We hope Mr. Taft will be there when  
the signal to get together is sounded.  
Gen. Diaz is getting to be an old man.  
This particularly dazzling prospect has  
been dangled before his eyes for many  
weary years. Long has he hoped, and  
in vain. He never is, but always to be  
blessed in this specific wise. We venture  
to add our hopes to his this time. May  
his dream come true without more ado.

## Why Is the Tramp?

What are the causes of vagrancy? It  
were vain to ask the vagrants. Rarely  
could one of them analyze the causes of  
his homeless wandering. What is the  
remedy? Again the subject of inquiry is  
incompetent to give answer. A sociolo-  
gist, Mr. Triplett, has been investigating  
the causes and seeking a remedy, but  
with conclusions that are not definite.  
With praiseworthy diligence, this inquirer  
interviewed more than 5,000 out of 14,000  
of these voluntary guests. They were  
all homeless, a fact perhaps not sur-  
prising. Nor was it astonishing that at  
some period all had been successful wage-  
earners, several of them having attained  
a maximum income of \$3,000. Drink was  
the chief cause of their loss of employ-  
ment. It was a notable fact that many  
of them liked the vagrant life, and pre-  
ferred its uncertainties to work. In fact,  
some of them refused employment when  
offered.

It would be interesting to know what  
lay behind these refusals. Perhaps the  
proposed jobs were not suited to tem-  
peraments both artistic and laudatory;  
perhaps the wage-scale did not satisfy  
the wanderers' estimate of their per-  
sonal worth. It is possible that the sense  
of adventure had imparted its uncertain  
joys to the imagination of some of these  
tramps. They may in days more pros-  
perous and intellectual have read "Rob-  
inson Crusoe" or the adventures of "Kip-  
pling's tramp Irish king in the Himalayas."  
There must have been some mental back-  
ground to their restlessness. All of  
them, it should be remarked, wanted to  
go somewhere else, and none of them  
was willing to walk. No Weston leg  
exercise for them; instead, they yearned  
for free transportation, quite regardless  
of the legal abolition of the railway pass.  
Vagrancy is now classed legally as a  
misdemeanor in all of the States, but  
the punishment is made to fit the crime  
so exactly that it holds upon the victim  
is only strengthened. Not reformation,  
but its opposite, results, with graduation  
into the ranks of the incorrigible. The  
study of tramp life has yielded some  
picturesque literary results, but the ef-  
fort to gather statistics seems inconclu-  
sive.

The important point to bear in mind,  
we think, is that the country, when it  
demanded downward revision of the tariff  
last fall, if it did that, meant from the  
Dingley rates downward. To force Con-  
gress to revise the present Aldrich

proposition downward to the Dingley law,  
where it started, would not be the quality  
of revision the country demanded at all.

We hold no brief for the defense of  
Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, but we insist, never-  
theless, that her evident efforts to keep  
Harry Thaw in the insane asylum do not  
necessarily argue that she is unfriendly  
to him.

Mr. Bryan's generosity in presenting  
Mr. Taft a so-called "Democratic issue"  
now and then is more apparent than real.  
Mr. Bryan knows he can manufacture  
two new ones overnight for every old one  
he gives away.

A Pittsburg girl declares she won her  
husband through making a photograph of  
him. Likely enough, however, the  
brute will say she simply snapped him up.

Under the operation of the corporation  
tax law, let us hope "pat" earnings will  
not show a tendency to become "nit"  
earnings.

"If some women knew how they look  
when they try to run for a street car,  
the chances are they wouldn't," says the  
Indianapolis News. Also, if they knew  
how the men look.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer's predilec-  
tion for answering paragraphic inquiries  
with personal allusions is most reprehensi-  
ble. It should know that all paragraphs  
are intended to apply to the other fellow  
only.

"An English critic says Mark Twain is  
losing his sense of humor," according to  
the Omaha Bee. If Mark loses it in  
England, it will not be hard to find.

It is claimed that "petrol," the Stand-  
ard Oil's near-brother, will "last a good  
deal longer than real butter." On the  
theory, perhaps, that a little of it may be  
guaranteed to go a long way.

The Philadelphia North American is  
running a column every day just now  
headed "What editors say of Aldrich."  
The opinions seemingly all incline one  
way—and nearly anybody can easily  
guess which way.

"Never pay your taxes," advises a suf-  
fragette, "without vigorously protesting  
to the tax collector your indignation  
against taxation without representation." The  
execution of the implied threat here in-  
volved would seem to justify a sharp raise  
in the salaries of tax collectors throughout  
the country.

"To call a man a grafter is not to  
slander him, necessarily," rules a Chicago  
court. Certainly not; it may be the  
truth. And even if it is not the truth,  
it still may not be a slander in Chicago.

Mohammed Ali now takes his place  
alongside Abdul Hamid in the royal ex-  
pansionists' society.

"We have coal enough to last for 7,500  
years to come," announces the Depart-  
ment of Commerce and Labor. That puts  
the department several thousand years  
and a few months ahead of the average  
citizen.

We notice in the Atlanta Georgian that  
some convention down South has in-  
dorsed the passage by the Georgia legis-  
lature of a "State wide open prohibition  
law." Judging from reports, that is just  
about the kind of law it is, too.

Lincoln's face on the new pennies is all  
right. The pennies circulate almost ex-  
clusively among the common people, and  
Mr. Lincoln always liked mixing with  
them.

"What has become of the case against  
the New York World instituted by Mr.  
Roosevelt," begins the Columbia State.  
"Sh-h-h-h! Keep off the grass!"

It was not long after Mr. Roosevelt's  
entrance into Africa that the teetse fly  
was relieved of all responsibility for the  
"sleeping sickness." We anticipated as  
much.

A Cincinnati minister has secured sev-  
eral canny bids "to help out the choir."  
We suspect this minister is something of  
a "yellow bird" himself.

"Lord Roberts is getting so timid in his  
old age that he would shy at a German  
frankfurter," says the Philadelphia Pub-  
lic Ledger. Perhaps his lordship's diges-  
tive apparatus is not quite what it used to  
be.

Evelyn Thaw swears, however, that  
Harry Thaw was not crazy when they  
were married. Naturally, she would find  
it more or less embarrassing to swear  
otherwise, although there are folks who  
think Harry surely must have been.

On the whole, we have small doubt  
it is something of a relief to Chancellor  
von Buelow.

Wow! Here comes a Fellow of the  
Royal Geological Society calling Buena  
Tumbo a "dynamic geographer." Sounds  
like lightning talk.

"There is nothing for Mr. Taft to do but  
veto the tariff bill," says the Charleston  
News and Courier. And there is nothing  
for the News and Courier to do but guess  
again.

"Two and a half inches of rain when  
none was wanted," says the Knoxville  
Sentinel of Wednesday. Probably things  
were not as "dry" in Knoxville as J.  
Piusius thought.

## MEN IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

**The Executive Smile.**  
From the Providence Journal.  
Reports from the conference committee bring  
assurance that Mr. Taft's bright smile haunts them  
still.

**Topic for the President.**  
From the Boston Herald.  
The President has not spoken of the relation  
of the church to the tariff. He might find here a  
fertile and a diverting topic.

**Good of Presidential Travel.**  
From the New York Evening Post.  
By free discussion, by large appeal, a traveling  
President can do much to arouse and direct the  
political forces which make for renovation and  
progress.

**Sarcasm for Mr. Taft.**  
From the New York Sun.  
The President enacts. A tax bill originates  
with the President. He will not let it be beaten.  
He has the votes to pass it. He knows who is going  
to vote for it.

**Mr. Valentine Complimented.**  
From the Springfield Republican.  
The new commissioner of Indian affairs, Robert  
G. Valentine, begins his administration of an im-  
portant office with an excellent circular letter to  
his lieutenants and helpers in the field.

**Mr. Bryan's Expectation.**  
From the Philadelphia Press.  
Mr. Bryan could hardly expect President Taft  
to take seriously his suggestion that the latter use  
his influence to secure the adoption of a Consti-  
tutional amendment making the United States  
Senators elective by the people.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

WRITING A POEM.

This writing verse is not so worse,  
Requires but little time and a post  
You take some prose, put it in rows  
And line it up to rhyme.

And if your rhyme is not so sublime  
You do not need to simply let  
The matter go at that.

**In the Fighting Belt.**  
"May I ask you a question?"  
"Sure, stranger."  
"Why everybody in this section mix-  
ed up in a feud?"  
"Well, nobody keeps to take chances  
on being an innocent bystander."

**Sink or Swim.**  
"Do you think he'll ever learn to run  
that motor boat?"  
"He certainly started out in a business-  
like manner. Threw away the book of  
instructions."

**The Commercial Muse.**  
Art for art's sake is very nice,  
But bards are prone  
To write soap poems for a price.  
Want any done?

**Information Wanted.**  
"Giggelbat recommends this summer  
resort to me."  
"Well?"  
"But what sort of a chap is Giggel-  
bat? Does he think a place is all right  
simply because he's been to it?"

**Ever Notice?**  
"They say it takes three generations to  
make a perfect gentleman."  
"Three gin rickeys will often do it just  
as effectively."

**On Probation.**  
"Father says my dance is unstable.  
Jacks fixity of purpose."  
"Then your father declines to approve  
your choice?"  
"Not exactly. He has placed the young  
man on a certain brand of cigarettes,  
and if he sticks to it without a change  
for three months, father is to sanction  
the match."

**Gardenage.**  
A great many vegetables can be raised  
in about eight inches of newspaper space.

**PROHIBITION IN THE SOUTH.**  
A Success in Country Districts, but  
a Failure in the Cities.

R. W. Simpson, Jr., in Harper's Weekly.  
On the main line of the Southern Rail-  
way from Washington to New Orleans  
there is not a town or city in which a  
man can buy a glass of beer legitimately.  
But if the train carries for half an hour  
almost anywhere, he can refresh himself,  
and take something along to refresh him-  
self. From his seat in the Pullman car  
he can see hundreds of trucks at every  
way station filled with kegs, cases, demij-  
ohns, and jugs, for the shipment of  
liquor into the desert is the big industry  
to-day. The same traveler, if his name  
is John Smith, can find a package of any  
size in almost every express office. As  
much of it is shipped C. O. D., he can pay,  
sign, and take the package and get it far  
from ideal, but the saloon has been voted  
out by the people or the legislature with-  
out regard to consequences. Meanwhile  
the usual amount of drinking on the  
part of the country people is not less, and  
who knows how. Seeing the opportunity  
which would be offered, growers began  
to work day and night to supply the de-  
mand for near-beer, what is supposed to  
contain less than 2 per cent. of alcohol.  
But in the near-beer saloons, at with-  
out exception, the real article is sold.  
Practically every dealer has a United  
States license, and most of them will  
mix a drink of whiskey or else serve it  
straight.

The South has demonstrated that prohi-  
bition is wise and beneficial in the  
small towns and the country districts. In-  
stead of a negro population, but the  
fact that the prohibition, so-called, in  
its cities is a failure. It would be strain-  
ing a point to speak of it even as near-  
prohibition.

**LUXURIOUS LIVING.**  
A Feature of American Life That  
Explains Some Things.

From the Columbia State.  
Collier's thinks it has discovered the  
secret of the "increased cost of living"  
in this country. "In 1899," it says, "the  
number of riders on Pullman cars in  
this country was 5,000,000; and they paid  
\$10,000,000 as the price. In 1908, a year  
after the hard times, there were 15,000,000 riders,  
at a cost of \$30,000,000. A good deal of  
what is called increased cost of living  
in this country is really increased cost of  
living for luxuries." Somewhat; but  
there are a few other things in the country  
besides palace sleeping-cars. The  
energy of the party of Mr. Taft  
is devoted to the denial of the fact that  
the cost of living. Those who wish  
to ride in palace cars may take their  
chances, but the "ultimate consumer,"  
the man or woman that pays all the  
bills, the man or woman who is actu-  
ally acting by fact, settles all bills. The  
sooner we realize this very elemental  
fact, the sooner the country will get  
upon a basis of common sense and rea-  
sonable economy and thrift.

**Title of American Nobility.**  
From the Baltimore Star.  
Alas for America, that any of her  
daughters should have made her chief  
metropolis a title mart! That their will-  
ingness to exchange their birthright of  
freedom and equality for a bauble which  
has even no official value should be so  
evident in these countries is a fact which  
yet her almost her every other possession!  
Yet, happily, let us remember that those  
who have thus dragged her democratic  
institutions in the mire of their foolish  
ways are but a dimly lit minority  
against that great nation of women who  
have no equals in the world, to whom  
American ideals and American citizen-  
ship are valuable next only to the honest  
devotion of the American husband, whose  
title of nobility is the esteem of his  
fellow-men.

**Summer Girl a Vision of Beauty.**  
From the Baltimore Star.  
There is no need of telling the girls  
how to enjoy the summer time. It is  
their own season. If a man is so blind  
that he cannot see the charms of the  
summer girl he does not deserve a fac-  
ing wife. He deserves to worry alone  
through life as a lonely old bachelor and  
have his estate absorbed by an asylum  
for orphan pups. For she is a vision of  
beauty and a dream of delight. From the  
box in her hair down to her feet, the  
slippers that cover her little feet, from  
her glowing cheeks to her parasol, from  
her peep-a-boo waist to her irresistible  
manner she is the central feature of the  
landscape, the joy of the nation, the  
catch of the season—the summer girl!

**Didn't Want to Feel at Home.**  
From London Opinion.  
Landlady—I'm sure, sir, I'll do all I  
can to make you feel at home.  
Mr. Henpeck—Well, I don't want that.  
I'd just like to be comfortable.

## PEOPLE AND THINGS

Denver's Fine Monument.

Denver is to have a fine Pioneer's  
Monument, designed by MacMonie. It  
will include a platform, approached by  
broad flights of steps, having in the  
center a fountain composed of bowls  
that receive from cornucopias the sym-  
bolic wealth of Colorado. Above all is  
poised a rampant horse bearing the beck-  
oning figure of Kit Carson, that guide  
of our hunters and our soldiers, the  
symbol of civilization. The original design  
of the sculptor was an Indian, but that  
was rejected because the red man, though  
the earlier dweller in the land, could not  
properly be termed the pioneer for the  
white man. The figure of Carson, how-  
ever, is pronounced a good likeness. Four  
figures at the base of the monument rep-  
resent a miner reclining and examining  
a nugget, a hunter with dog and gun,  
a cowboy, and finally a pioneer woman  
guarding the corpse of her husband, slain  
by Indians, her babe clasped to her  
breast, and a sickle in her right hand.

**The Northern Empire.**  
The tracing of degrees of latitude  
across continents often brings surprises.  
Thus Berlin is only half a degree south  
of Edmonton, Canada, one of the most  
northern points reached by railway in  
America. Peace River Landing, which a  
railroad is soon to reach, is on the lat-  
itude of Copenhagen and Moscow. York  
Factory, on Hudson Bay, is south of  
Riga, while Fort Churchill is in about a  
line with Stockholm. At Port Vermilion,  
on the north of Edmonton, one farmer  
thrashes by steam nearly 1,000 bushels  
of wheat. The average temperature of  
Sitka, Alaska, is higher, by official re-  
cords, than that of Washington, D. C.  
It is into this great region that rail-  
ways are pushing for loads for their  
cars. It is the opinion of James J. Hill  
that noble States with populous cities  
will cover the enormous area bounded  
by the United States, Hudson Bay, the  
Arctic Circle, and the Pacific Ocean. The  
agricultural possibilities of this region  
are increased because of the westerly  
trend of the mountain ranges and the  
greater amount of moisture.

**The Libraries of Chicago.**  
Chicago feels proud of having been  
made the headquarters of the American  
Library Association. That designation  
is hailed as another evidence of that  
hustling city's advance toward the ac-  
quisition of that precious "culture."

Now that it has set about increasing the  
active use of its libraries, it recognizes  
the importance of close association be-  
tween them and the public schools. The  
early cultivation of the reading habit  
among the young is to be encouraged. It  
is pointed out that a progressive library  
is an active factor in the process of  
assimilating alien elements. It not only  
strives to increase the circulation of good  
books that help in the formation and  
character of the citizen, but it also  
meets, when possible, the special needs  
of individual readers. It places books  
in foreign languages before the eyes of  
new arrivals, so as to encourage  
reading habit simultaneously with  
adaptation to new surroundings. It  
lessens needless restrictions upon the  
outside use of books, and makes visitors  
feel that the collection is really for their  
welcome use and instruction.

**A Picturesque Celebration.**  
The town of Hadley, Mass., is to devote  
the first few days of August to a cele-  
bration of the 50th anniversary of its  
founding. It is appropriate that the first  
day, Sunday, should be devoted to reli-  
gious exercises. It was the first minister  
of the town, the Rev. John Russell, who  
harbored from the search of British de-  
fensives the refugees of the American  
Revolution. The peaceful town, on the eastern bank  
of the Connecticut River, north of the  
Mount Holyoke range, its main street  
is not excelled in width and beauty by  
any village in the State. Despite its  
quietude, the town is the birthplace of  
the famous poet, the only town  
having a son honored by an equestrian  
statue in the shadow of the Statehouse.

The celebration is to include a pageant  
with historical floats, and there will also  
be representation of a battle with In-  
dians, in which hidden riflemen sud-  
denly appeared and led the settlers to  
victory. That incident is an unverified  
tradition, but its representation lends  
interest to the historic element of the  
occasion.

**One Feminine Economy.**  
Women's outfitters in New York City  
make complaint that the increase in  
automobiles has hurt the trade in  
women's clothing. It seems that the  
modern road-car has simplified to some  
extent the problem of feminine garb.  
Smart people and people who seem  
smart, no longer need to settle down  
at a fashionable watering place and dis-  
play a varied collection of ornate gowns,  
designed for every period of the day.  
Nowadays, a woman can fit hither and  
thither in an automobile, attired in auto-  
mobile costume. Perhaps she may take  
her two or three simple gowns,  
suitable for the occasion, and possibly  
one gown for evening wear. This is  
equipment enough for a season, and  
the saving may count something against  
the maintenance of the machine wagon.  
If this plan has been actually adopted  
in practice to any great extent, it is not  
surprising that city merchants have  
noticed the difference in expenditure.  
The economy may be needed, moreover, for it  
is conceded almost superfluous that  
at least some of the latest uses of the  
machine wagons feel somewhere the cost  
of their pleasure.

**Sunday Labor Debates.**  
For more than twenty-five years the  
meetings of the federated representatives  
of labor unions in New York City have  
been storm centers of discussion on Sun-  
day afternoons. It is a radical departure  
to change the time of meeting to Friday  
evenings. The reasons therefor are vari-  
ous. One was that Sunday afforded an  
opportunity for working people (meaning,  
apparently, the delegates) to take their  
wives and children to the seashore. This  
plea was countered by the assertion that  
it was better to hold these meetings than  
to meet in saloons. It was predicted that  
weekend meetings would not be attended  
by a corporal's guard. Conversely it was  
shown that out of 50 Central Labor  
bodies in the United States only about  
ten meet on Sunday. The religious ob-  
servance of the day had its serious ad-  
vantages. Despite the decision for a change,  
evidently it was made with much doubt  
as to the results. It is certain that the  
discussions at the Sunday meetings have  
been productive of good in stimulating the  
intelligent interest of individual unions  
and elevating the general tone of indus-  
trial discussion among the city wage-  
earners.

**FUTURITY.**  
My moth to me was like a lovely flower.  
All flushed with crimson of its own delight.  
Its flame-like petals pulsed as if for flight,  
Ethereal child of changing sun and shower,  
Of midday dawn and night.

My age to me is like a golden fruit  
Shining quality and sweetness have been won  
From earth's reach—now gleaming as  
And rain and that dark soil where my root  
Invisibly has run.

My soul to me is like a rippling sea  
Which holds the heart of all that's deep and true.  
The fumes of power and golden truth in store,  
Close-held, secure, in larger love and more  
To live and bloom on more.

—Helen A. Bacon, in Appleton's Magazine.

## HIGH TRIBUTE TO TAFT.

Eulogized at a Meeting of Americans at Lucerne, Switzerland.

Lucerne, Switzerland, July 4.—At noon  
at the large annual banquet given by  
Americans to celebrate the anniversary  
of the